# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:140
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2016
International Cooperation in Agriculture Sector
Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh;Yadav Shri Om Prakash

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether a number of countries including Israel and the United States of America (USA) have evinced keen interest to extend cooperation in agriculture sector to India and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;

(b) the foreign investment sought and extended for the promotion of agriculture sector in the country during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(c) whether the Government has initiated an Indo-Israel Agricultural Project to extend strategic cooperation in the field of agriculture and if so, the details and the salient features thereof;

(d) whether a number of centres for excellence have been set up to increase the production of fruits and vegetables under the said project in various States and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the transfer of technology in the agriculture sector has been accomplished and the benefits of the said project accrued to the farmers in the country?

## Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
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(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 140 DUE FOR REPLY ON 3RD MAY, 2016.

(a): Yes, Madam. Ministry of Agriculture during the last three years has signed (four) MoUs with Morocco, Vietnam, Mongolia and Armenia. Also, approval for the signing of an MoU for cooperation with Lithuania has also been obtained. MoUs with Israel and USA were signed in 1993 and 2010 respectively.

(b): Details of foreign investment received in the Agriculture Sector during April 2012 till February, 2016, countrywise, is attached as Annexure.

(c) to (e): Under MoU signed with Israel Action Plan is prepared from time to time and currently Action Plan for the period 2015-18 is underway. At present, 21 States namely, Haryana, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Punjab, Karnataka, Gujarat, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Telengana and West Bengal are covered under Indo-Israel Action Plan for 2015-18 for setting up Centres of Excellence (CoE) for vegetables, citrus fruits, mango, pomegranate, floriculture, integrated bee keeping development and treatment of brackish water etc.

Under the Action Plan, technology/training is provided by Israeli experts through their visits to India and Indian scientists/experts also visit Israel to get training before imparting technology at the field level in the areas of energy efficient green houses, precision irrigation, reclycling of domestic waste water for irrigation, etc.